

Windsor, Ashtabula co, Ohio Sept. 7, 1857

Friend Garrison,

I have just received a couple of copies of the Liberator. It comes freighted with the radiant promises of future liberty bearing up steadily before the winds of opposition the banner of universal emancipation to the unjust oppression of Africa's Sable ~~sons~~ Sons, Flung into the midst of confusion and agitated by the political contentions of the day the people of the North are just becoming prepared to blow the sparks that are falling from the hearth-stones of the Disunion party and kindle a flame under the altars of this corrupted Union that never can be quenched. A clan of voracious misers at the head of government are glutting their vulgar and dishonest avarice upon the pocket-books of honest men - enslaving a large portion of its population and perpetrating crimes that stain the curtains of this so-called Republic's sanctuaries with the blood of innocence and shed a gloom of malignant horror upon the bosom of 1857 unparalleled in our nation's history. We see the millions of wretched beings - rational men of immortal souls as much as we - that are degraded to the level of the brute by the workings of ^{infernal} the slave system of America - the sum of all villainies and the consummation of all enormities - perpetrated by our nation's support and protected by its impious laws. Kansas' fair plains are today recording scenes of unparalleled pollution through the influence

of this invidious sin. The corrupt heart of Walker and the depraved and sunken soul of Buchanan and his thrice-polluted Cabinet with a medley horde of their nefarious contemporaries darken the horizon of '57 with their impious deeds of shame. What person after contemplating the blighting curse of slavery stamped upon the bosom of our nation in this the middle of the nineteenth century can ask for our Union's preservation? What person after listening to the doleful cries of the oppressed that ascend to heaven upon the morning and evening breezes and call aloud for commiseration can ask to have the dividing stones of our Union ~~con~~ cemented together thus enabling the South to bind more tightly the galling manacles of bondage upon the bleeding limbs of their helpless victims? It is a ~~blasphemy~~ blasphemy alike upon every principle of justice and of right to contend for the preservation of a fabric founded in iniquity and receiving its support from the polluted quagmires of injustice and sin.

Ohio lies asleep in many respects in the anti-slavery movement and we want Speakers from the East to rouse it from its slumbers. Cannot some from the "Old Bay State" favor us with their labors? About a year ago Mr. Pillsbury visited us and by his able and manly lectures left an impress upon the hearts of our citizens that this generation cannot efface. He is not what is popularly called an orator - he lacks the accomplished ^{graces} - but for all this we do delight to sit at his feet and listen to the

mighty avalanche of words that leap forth
from his mouth clothed in such radiant beauty.
We have also been favored of late with a
visit from H. C. Wright of Boston - a man
possessing extraordinary abilities - who has
breathed forth in many places the principles
of the Disunion party that has taken deep
root and we hope will bud and bloom for
sunken Freedom's redemption. We regret the
course he pursued on the "Glorious Fourth," as
circulated by the journals of this vicinity,
as for the authenticity of the charges we
are not prepared to vouch. Not being present
on the occasion we are acquainted with the cir-
cumstance only by "hearsay" and communicate
them to you accordingly hoping that Mr. W.
will correct them if wrong. The Spiritualists
of Northern Ohio held a convention at Ravenna
on the 4th of July as was claimed for the discus-
sion of the facts and phenomena of modern
Spiritualism. Mr. Wright was there, supported
by a number of able talents he ~~spintruively~~
spoke of the doctrine of "Free Love" supporting
it in terms of highest commendation. If
so and if (as was claimed) the convention was
called for considering the subject of Spiritualism
only we emphatically denounce the course pur-
sued by him and his supporters. Not denying
to any man or set of men the right of freedom
of speech on suitable occasions but to crowd
side issues into an assembly called for one
special purpose we deem unparliamentary and
unjust. He was aided by other able men and
women on the same platform who have been

of late busily engaged in defending—through
secular as well Spiritualists journals—the po-
sition there occupied by them. It was true
that the doctrine of Free Love as advocated
there met the decided disapprobation of a ma-
jority of those present, and subjected the ad-
vocates of it to the scorn and contempt of
those opposed to the belief. The proceedings
of the convention have been very unfairly
treated of and the blame heaped mostly upon
Mr. Wright as the one introducing the subject
so rankly opposed. Resolutions adopted that
day by the Spiritualists of this vicinity and
published in the papers pro, and con speak
in a spirit unbecoming the occasion and to
our mind reflect great blame upon those who
so hastily sanctioned them being dictated more
by blind zeal than by candid judgment.

Hoping to hear from Mr. Wright upon this sub-
ject soon we leave it until a true statement
of the case may appear.

Again we press our solicitations for speakers
to unfold to the minds of our citizens the
horrors of American slavery and point out
the method of suppressing the enormous wrong.
We have noble-hearted men and women here
who are eager to investigate and are constant-
ly thirsting for "more light." Let us reiterate the
omnipotent injunction, "Let us have Light."

Wishing you success in your glorious under-
taking I subscribe myself yours to break
every yoke that binds the oppressed

S. P. Leland